深山幽谷に怪あり

IN THE DEPTHS OF THE MOUNTAINS, MONSTERS RESIDE

極上の山岳怪談がついにコミカライズ！

THE BEST WILDERNESS HORROR IS FINALLY TURNED INTO A MANGA!

MOUNTAIN OF GOOD PRECIPICE OF THE UNKNOWN

神々の山 魔境の領

山に潜むは神か…？
それとも魔なのか……!?

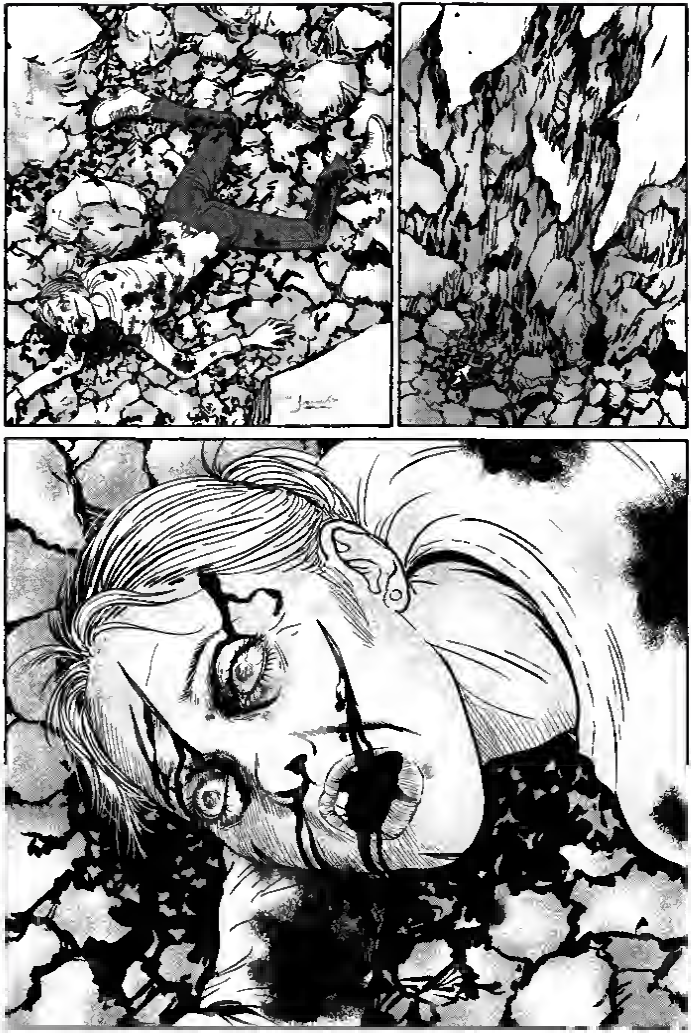
GODS THAT LIVE IN THE MOUNTAINS?
OR ARE THEY DEVILS?!

原作・安曇潤平
『山の霊異記 赤いヤンケの男』より
（KADOKAWAメディアファクトリー刊）
漫画・伊藤潤二

MOUNT 'H' NINE MONTHS AGO.
日の出小屋
WHAT A LUCKY DAY.
*HOSTEL
LET'S ALL INTRODUCE OURSELVES.
THE THREE OF US GOT SUCH A NICE BIG ROOM
YEAH, IT'S NICE TO HAVE TIME TO RELAX.

HAHA!
I LOVE HIKING, ESPECIALLY FOR THE SAKE AND DELICACIES YOU GET AT THE FOOT OF EACH HILL
MY NAME IS AZUMI
I'VE CLIMBED THE EIGER IN THE ALPS.
MY NAME'S ISHIDA.
TAKING PHOTOS IN THE MOUNTAINS IS MY HOBBY.
I'M TENNO.
AH I'VE HEARD OF THEM!
OH, SPEAKING OF DANGEROUS SITUATIONS, HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE SUPERNATURAL ACCIDENTS ON MOUNT H?
IS THAT SO?
WOW
WERE YOU IN ANY DANGEROUS SITUATIONS?
YES QUITE A FEW TIMES, ACTUALLY

THAT DAY, I SAW HER OFF FIRST THING IN THE MORNING.
THE VICTIM WAS A LADY IN HER 50S WHO WAS HIKING ALONE.
WHAT HAPPENED THAT ONE TIME WAS TERRIBLE!
OH, THE MANAGER.
BUT BY SUNSET, SHE HADN'T RETURNED.
BEFORE SHE LEFT, SHE TOLD ME SHE WAS ONLY GOING FOR A SHORT HIKE ON MOUNT H.
SHE OFTEN HIKED FOR FITNESS, AND WAS THEREFORE A VERY EXPERIENCED HIKER.
THEN, THE NEXT MORNING
IT WAS VERY SUNNY THAT DAY, AND THERE WERE LOTS OF OTHER HIKERS AROUND, SO ANY ACCIDENT SHOULDN'T HAVE GONE UNNOTICED.
BUT NONE OF THE HIKERS HAD SEEN HER.



THE AREA THAT THE LADY FELL INTO CANNOT BE REACHED EVEN WHEN ONE WALKS MANY METERS OFF THE HIKING TRAIL.
WHILE THE DEATH MAY SEEM STRAIGHT-FORWARD
THE SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT WAS A SMALL SPACE SURROUNDED BY SLOPES WITH WINDING TRAILS ON TOP.
ON EITHER SIDE OF THE RIDGES ON THOSE SLOPES ARE STEEP DROPS INTO THE VALLEYS BELOW, ONE OF WHICH THE LADY FELL INTO.
I ALSO CONSIDERED THAT POSSIBILITY.
THE PEOPLE WHO COLLECTED HER BODY SUSPECTED SHE MAY HAVE COMMITTED SUICIDE.

BUT IN THE END, THE CASE WAS CLOSED.
HER FAMILY ALSO FOUND THE NOTION OF SUICIDE UNBELIEVABLE.
BUT I REMEMBER HER BEING VERY CHEERFUL BEFORE SHE LEFT. IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE SHE'D TAKE HER OWN LIFE.
BUT HAVEN'T WE ALL TAKEN THAT PATH BEFORE? IT ISN'T AN AREA THAT HAS STRONG WIND.
OR SHE MAY HAVE BEEN BLOWN OFF BY A STRONG WIND.
PERHAPS SHE WAS OVERLY FATIGUED AND DIDN'T PAY ATTENTION TO WHERE SHE WAS GOING?
HOW COULD SHE HAVE DELIBERATELY FALLEN INTO A SNOW-FILLED VALLEY?
BESIDES, LIKE THE MANAGER, I'M GETTING CONFUSED.

...
RIGHT, HA HA HA
YOU'VE BEEN WATCHING TOO MANY SUSPENSE DRAMAS.
MAYBE SHE WAS PUSHED BY SOMEONE.
REMEMBERED SOMETHING FROM BEFORE...
I'VE SOMEWHAT...
!
DURING THE PEAK OF SUMMER, I DECIDED TO HIKE THE HIDA MOUNTAINS.
IT WAS ABOUT 5 YEARS AGO IN EARLY AUGUST.
YES...
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TO YOU?

THAT DAY, I LEFT THE HUT AND HEADED TOWARDS MOUNT AMIDA.
HIKERS THAT HAD PATIENTLY WAITED FOR MONSOON SEASON TO END FLOODED THE TRAILS.
CRUNCH
CRUNCH

ONCE I ROUND THIS BOULDER I'LL REACH THE RIDGE TRAIL, HUH?
EH?
NO ONE'S HERE . .

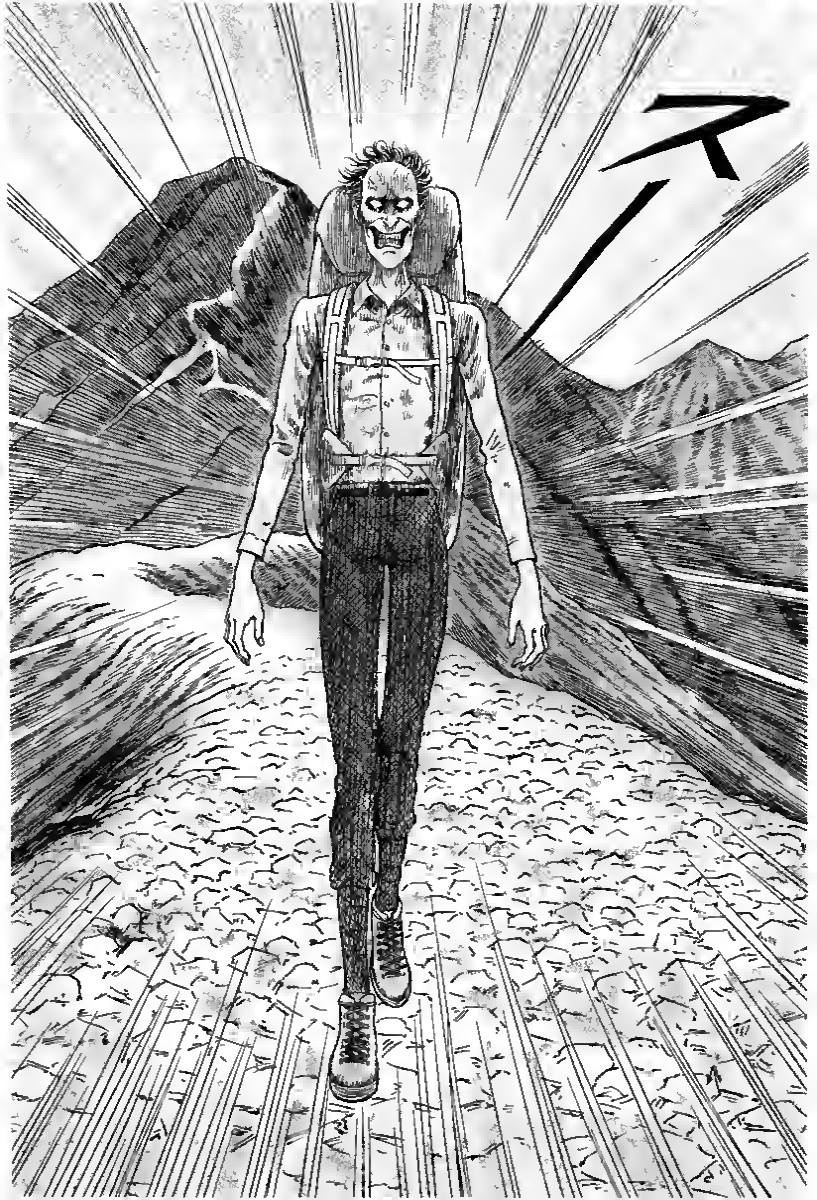
IT SEEMED LIKE I HAD REACHED AN AREA WITH CLEAN-AIR TURBULENCE
ARE THEY ALL EXPERIENCED HIKERS?
EVEN THOUGH I WAS QUITE CLOSE TO THE OTHERS, I BECAME ALONE ALL OF A SUDDEN
WHAT A NICE WIND.
I THINK TODAY'S LUNCH WILL BE TASTY.
AHH

THIS PERSON IS REALLY SLIM...

THAT PERSON MUST BE ENJOYING THIS HIKE A LOT!
IT'S GREAT TO TRAVEL FROM AFAR TO HIKE.
THE PERSON
IS SMILING.
I SUPPOSE I'LL SAY HI WHEN WE MEET.
I CAN'T HELP SMILING AS WELL.
SEEING THEM HAPPY MAKES ME HAPPY TOO.
...
I SUDDENLY FELT AN EXTREMELY COLD SENSATION.
AT THAT MOMENT ...

THAT...
NO...
THAT'S NOT A SMILE!!

THAT MAN WASN'T SMILING.
HE WAS SNEERING AT ME WITH IMMENSE HATRED.
WHAT SURPRISED ME MOST WERE THE MAN'S FOOTSTEPS.
THE STEPS HE TOOK AND THE SPEED AT WHICH HE MOVED FORWARD DIDN'T MATCH AT ALL.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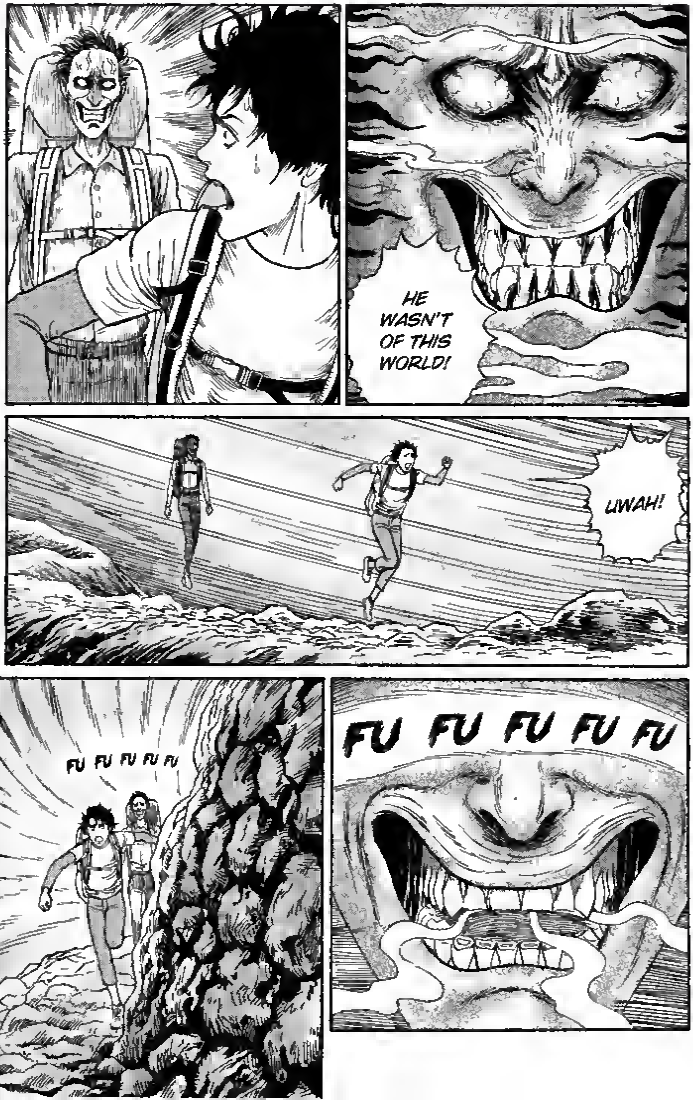
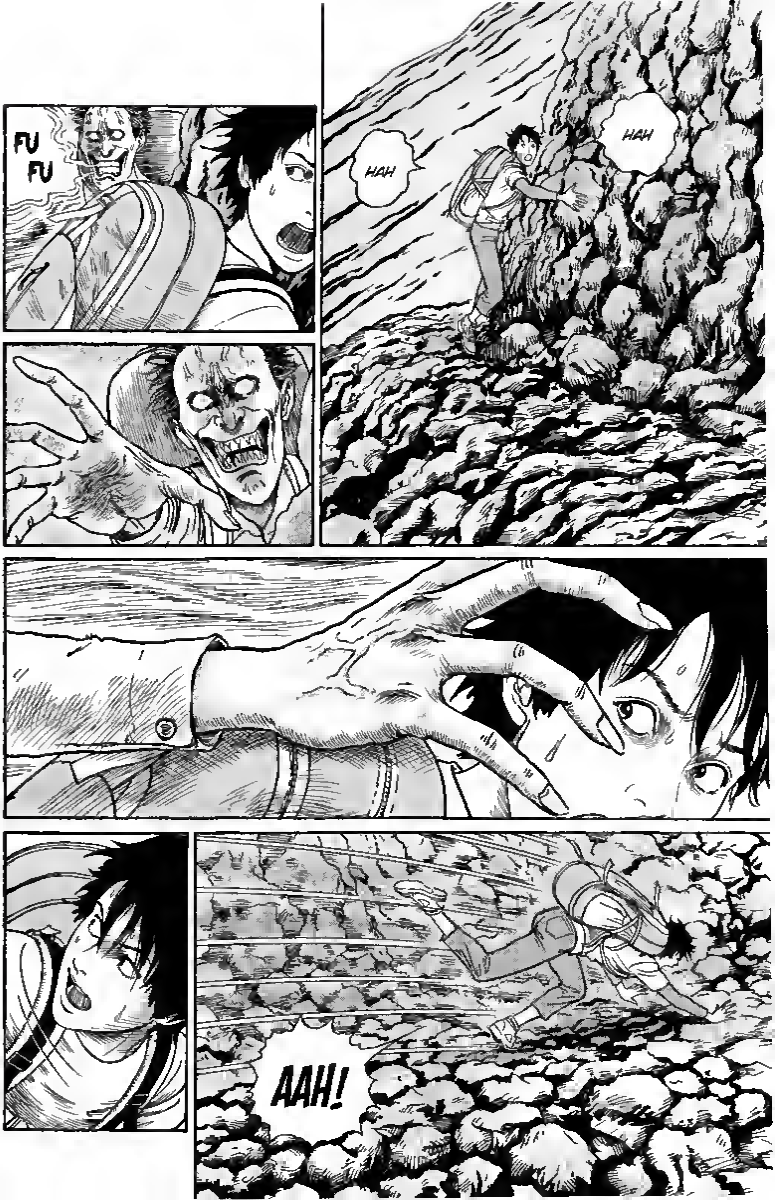

HE WASN'T OF THIS WORLD!
UWAH!
FU FU FU FU FU
FU FU FU FU FU

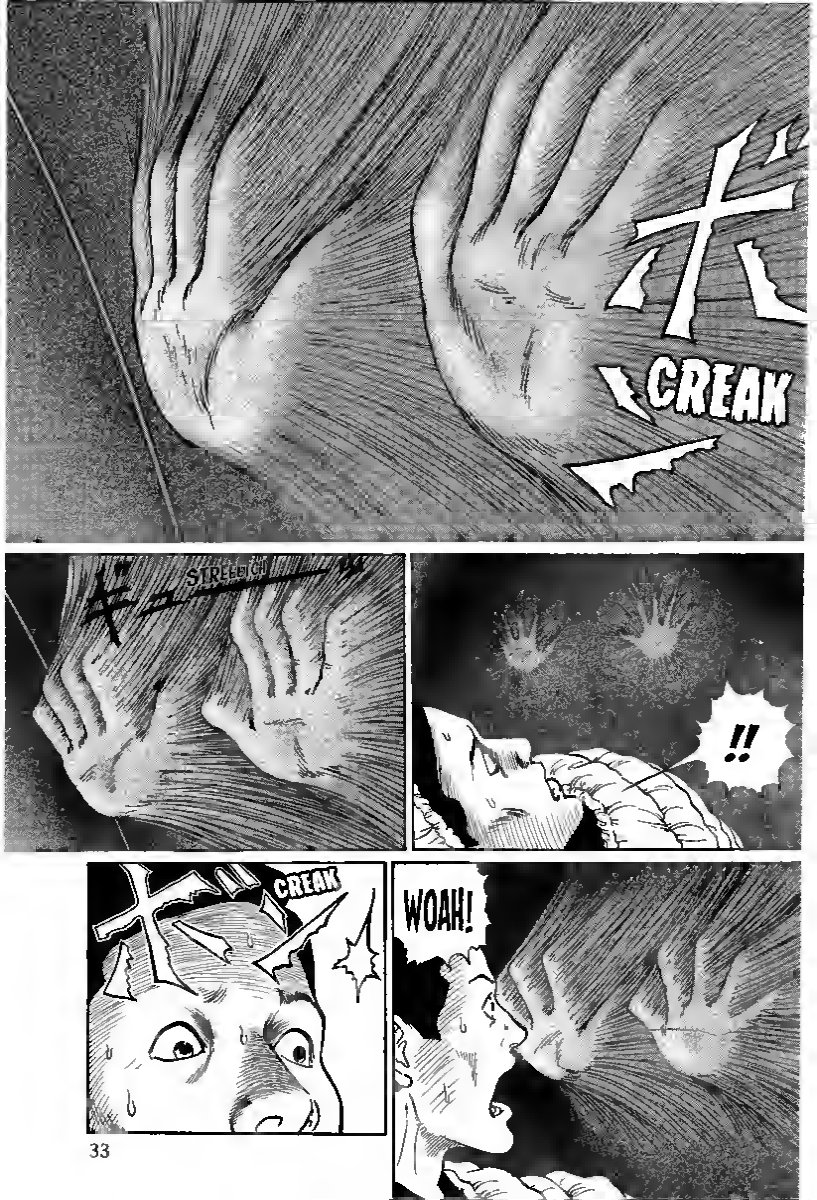

FU FU
HAH
HAH
AAH!

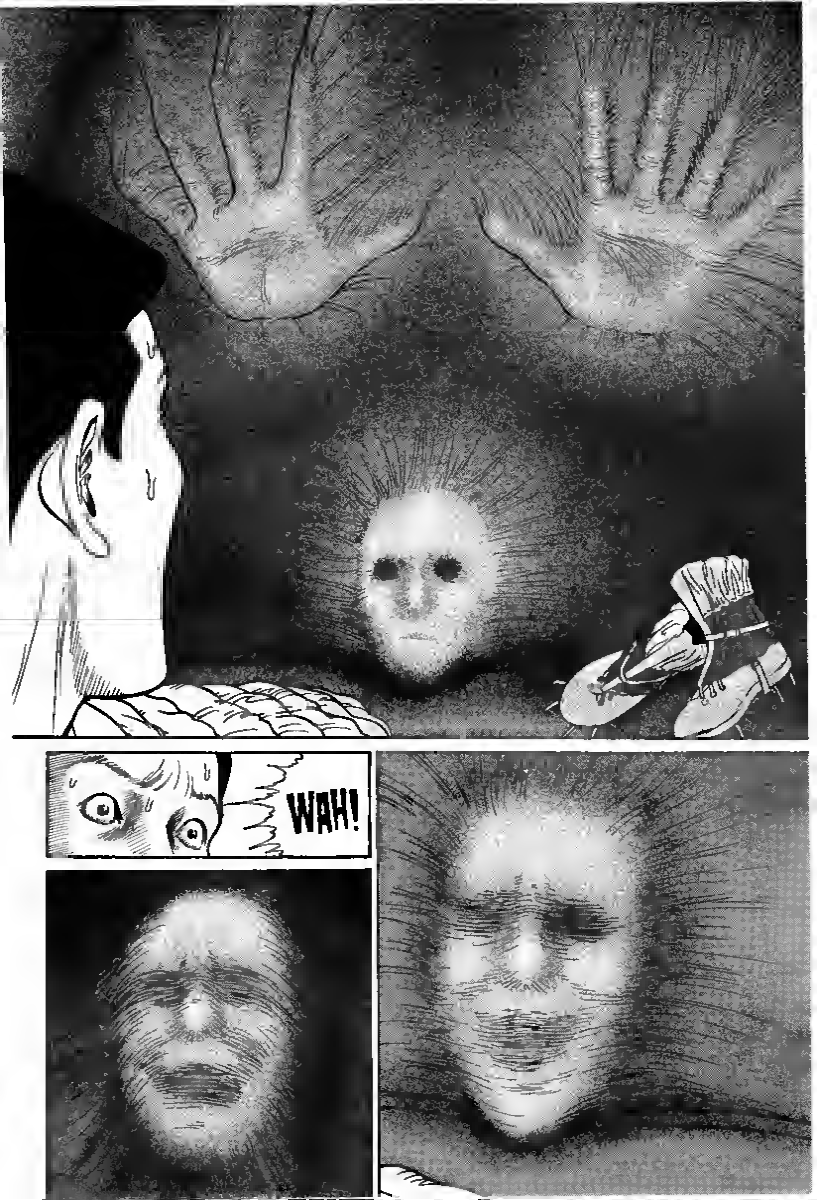
HAD THE SMELL OF DEATH!
WHO WAS HE? THE BREATH THAT HE RELEASED WITH EACH CHUCKLE
ANY TRACES OF THAT MAD HAD DISAPPEARED
COULD IT BE THAT THE LADY ENCOUNTERED THE SAME MAN THAT I DID?
THIS MEMORY CAME BACK TO ME TODAY WHEN I CHECKED OUT THE SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT WHILE HEADING DOWN MOUNT H

IF SHE'D TURNED BACK LIKE I DID?
BUT IF THAT'S THE CASE, WOULDN'T SHE HAVE BEEN SAVED ...
SPEAKING OF CREEPY STORIES, I ALSO HAVE AN EERIE EXPERIENCE.
HOW CREEPY ...
COULD THAT MAN HAVE BEEN A SPIRIT? LIKE AN EVIL DEMON?
IN ORDER TO TAKE PICTURES OF A CLEAR SKY FULL OF STARS, I HIKED FROM THE PLATEAU ON MOUNT N TO A HUT ON THE MOUNTAIN'S CLIFF.
WHAT IS IT?
OH?
ON MY WINTER TRIP TO MOUNT N IN THE NORTHERN ALPS TO PHOTOGRAPH STARS
WELL, IT HAPPENED MANY YEARS AGO.

THEN I WAITED FOR NIGHT-FALL.
I PITCHED A TENT IN A CREVICE AND HAD DINNER.
AFTER PASSING HUT R, I DECIDED I NEEDED TO STOP FOR A REST.
EVERYTHING SEEMED FINE WHEN I STARTED THE HIKE. BUT THE SKY SOON GREW CLOUDY.
HAH
HAH
I FINALLY PACKED UP MY CAMERA WHEN IT WAS AFTER MIDNIGHT.
I TOOK PICTURES FOR OVER 4 HOURS.
OOH
I WENT TO BED JUST BEFORE 1 AM

CRUNCH
ザッ…
CRUNCH
FOOT-STEPS ..?
ザッ
CRUNCH
ザッ…
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
ザッ
NO ONE SHOULD BE HIKING AT THIS TIME!
AT SUCH A LATE HOUR ...
HAA~
HAA~
SOME-THING NOT OF THIS WORLD!!
IT MUST BE ...
CRUNCH


CREAK
STRETCH
!!
CREAK
WOAH!


WAH!

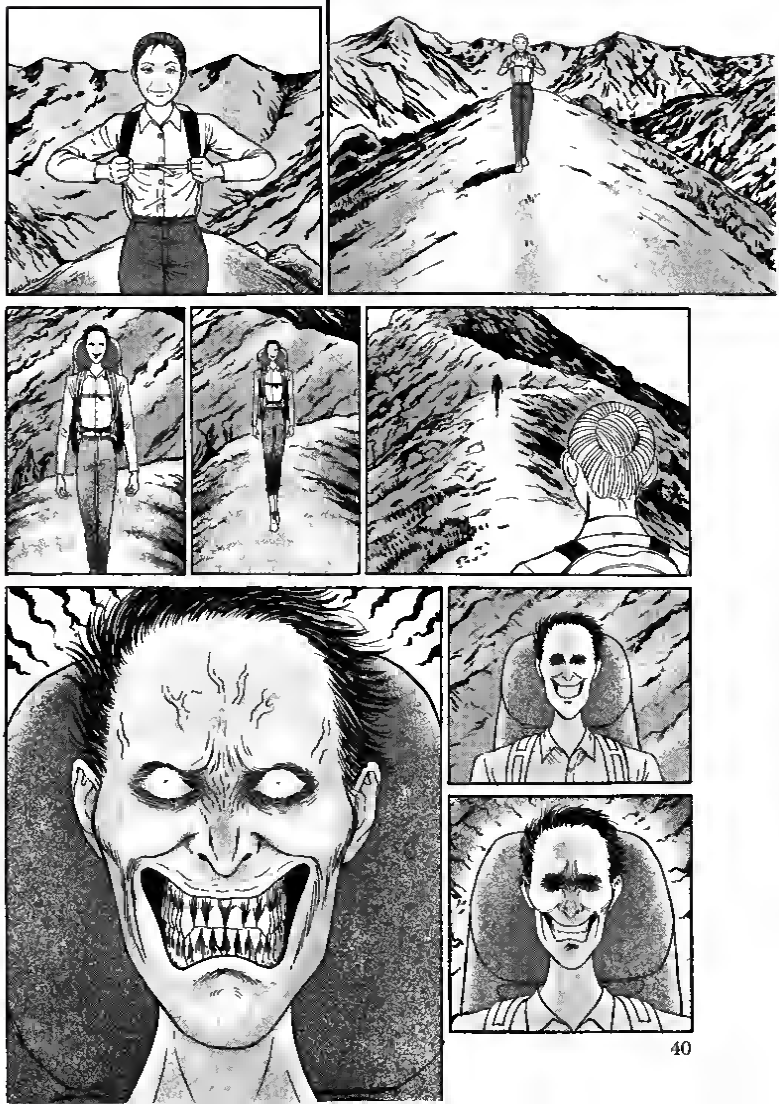
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREEE EEEAA

GYAA!!

!
ガッ
SHINE
CLICK
CREAK
SSSSSS
SKKR
RCCH
HHHH
HHH

ガタ
ガタ
ガタ
ガタ
SILENCE
ガタ
ガタ
ガタ
ガタ

BUT
I STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT IT WAS
THE NEXT MORNING, I GAVE UP ON THE PHOTOGRAPHIC TRIP.
I PACKED UP MY TENT AND LEFT FOR N PLATEAU AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.
IT'S JUST THAT THERE WERE TWO OF THEM AT THE TIME.
EH?!
THE FACE THAT WAS PRESSED AGAINST THE TENT EXACTLY MATCHES YOUR DESCRIPTION OF THE SNEERING MAN.
ISHIDA-SAN, THINKING BACK
DURING THE LADY'S ACCIDENT THAT DAY.
IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN THAT
HUH? WHAT IS IT?
TWO OF THEM, EH? THAT MUST BE IT



EEP!
AH!
FU FU FU FU
EEK!!

SOMEONE HELP!!
SOME-ONE

STAY AWAY!

SLIP
GYA!
AAAHHHH!!

GULP
BUT THERE SEEMS TO BE A LOT OF THINGS IN THE MOUNTAINS THAT WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT.
THAT'S JUST MY IMAGINATION.
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU BRING UP ALL THOSE EERIE STORIES
NAH, LET'S STOP THIS
SORRY I BROUGHT UP MY STORY
PLEASE FORGET WHAT I SAID.
NO, I WAS THE ONE THAT STARTED THIS.
AS THE MANAGER OF THIS HOSTEL, I'LL BE STAYING HERE FOR THE REST OF THE SEASON
...
EVERYTHING'S FINE, EVERYONE, SINCE YOU ARE ALL LEAVING THE MOUNTAIN TOMORROW.
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STORY AND ART BY
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